

a flag extracting portion for extracting from the management information a flag for specifying a coding mode used when the received information was coded; and

a control portion for controlling the decoding device to be activated in a decoding mode corresponding to the coding mode specified by the extracted coding flag.

90. An image decoding device having a combination of plural decoding systems selectable from claim 84, and having plural decoding modes selectively applicable, which further includes:

a management information separating portion for separating management Information from the input bit stream;

a flag extracting portion for extracting from the management information a flag for specifying a coding mode used when the received information was coded; and

a control portion for controlling the decoding device to be activated in a decoding mode corresponding to the coding mode specified by the extracted coding flag. --

#### REMARKS

Applicant brings to Examiner's attention the fact that the claim amendments made in the Preliminary Amendment filed on March 17, 2000 were incorrectly made based on the claims as amended under Article 19. Applicants respectfully request that the claim amendments made in the Preliminary Amendment of March 17, 2000 be disregarded.

This Second Preliminary Amendment places the Article 34 claims back into this application.

Claims 1-37 have been cancelled. New claims 38-90 (*based on the Article 34 claims*) have been added in this Second Preliminary Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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